

SUPPLEMENT TO THE AGENDA FOR

Council

Friday 18 November 2011

10.30 am

The Shirehall, St Peter's Square, Hereford.

Supplement – Agenda Item 10

Appendix 3 – Proposed Constituencies Map

Supplement – Agenda Item 13

Amended Report – Appointment of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Vice Chairmen of the Task and Finish Groups.

MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	18 NOVEMBER 2011
TITLE OF REPORT:	REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES
REPORT BY	CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To explain to Council the Boundary Commission for England's proposals for new Parliamentary constituencies in Herefordshire and to agree the authorities response on the Boundary Commission's proposals as they affect the Herefordshire Parliamentary constituencies.

Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision.

Recommendation

THAT:

The proposed constituencies as set out in Appendix 2 of this report be approved and forwarded to the Boundary Commission for England as the Council's formal response to the consultation

Key Points Summary

- The first stage of the review process for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England has been completed and the initial proposals have been published.
- Consultation on the initial proposals will close on 5 December 2011.
- The West Midlands region has been allocated 54 constituencies, which is a reduction of five from the current arrangements.
- The Commission's proposals include a constituency that would contain electorate from Herefordshire only, a constituency with electorate from both Herefordshire and Shropshire to include the towns of Leominster and Ludlow, and another constituency, which would include

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
John Jones, Head of Governance (01432) 260222

electorate from both Herefordshire and Worcestershire to include the towns of Ledbury and Great Malvern.

- Group Leaders met on 4 November 2011 to consider the Councils response and their recommendation is set out in Appendix 2 of this report.

Alternative Options

- 1 That no response be made to the Boundary Commission for England for new Parliamentary constituencies.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 It better represents the existing constituencies for Herefordshire and does not dislocate its Parliamentary representatives from its recognised communities.

Introduction and Background

- 3 The Boundary Commission for England are undertaking a periodic review of all the Parliamentary constituencies in England. It is currently conducting a review on the basis of new rules laid down by Parliament. These rules involve a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England from 533 to 502 and require that every constituency apart from two specific exceptions (relating to the Isle of White) must have an electorate that is no smaller than 72,810 and no larger the 80,473.

- 4 The electorate in the current Hereford Constituencies is as follows:

- Hereford and South Herefordshire - 71,611
- North Herefordshire - 66,536

Key Considerations

Initial proposals

- 5 The Boundary Commission for England has now completed the first stage of the review process and has published its initial proposals for the new Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England.
- 6 The West Midlands region has been allocated 54 constituencies which is a reduction of five from the current arrangements. The current proposals leave 10 of the existing 59 constituencies unchanged.
- 7 As it has not always been possible to allocate whole numbers of constituencies to individual counties, the Boundary Commission has grouped some Local Authority areas into sub-regions. The number of constituencies allocated to each sub-region is determined by the electorate of the combined Local Authorities.

Sub-Region	Existing Allocation	Proposed Allocation
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Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin and Worcestershire	13	12
Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent	12	11
Warwickshire and West Midlands	34	31

- 8 The Commission's proposals include a Hereford constituency (76,780 electorate), a constituency which contains electorate from both Herefordshire and Shropshire which includes the towns of Leominster and Ludlow (77,911 electorate) and another constituency which includes electors from both Herefordshire and Worcestershire combining the towns of Ledbury and Great Malvern (79,100 electorate),
- 9 Details of the Herefordshire wards in the new constituencies proposed by the Boundary Commission for England including the electorate are attached as Appendix 1. to this report.
- 10 In deciding boundaries of Parliamentary constituencies the Commissioner takes into account:
- (a) Special geographical considerations, including the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
 - (b) Local Government boundaries as they existed on 6 May 2010;
 - (c) Boundaries of existing constituencies; and
 - (d) Any local ties that would be broken by the changes in constituencies
- 11 None of the above factors will override the necessity to achieve an electorate in each constituency that is within the range allowed.
- 12 The Boundary Commission for England is currently consulting on the proposals until 5 December 2011. It will then publish the representations made on the proposals, following which there will be a further four week period when additional written representations on the submissions can be made.
- 13 If the Commission decide to change its proposals as a result of the representations received, it will publish revised proposals and consult on them for a further period of eight weeks.
- 14 When the Commission has decided on its final recommendations for the whole of England, it will submit its proposals to the Government.
- 15 With regard to the naming of any new Constituency the Commission's policy is that when Constituencies remain largely unchanged, the existing constituency name would usually remain unchanged. Generally, the name would reflect the main population centres contained

in the constituency, though if a suitable alternative name is proposed which generally commands greater support locally, then the Commission will usually be prepared to recommend the alternative.

- 16 On receipt of the Commissioners final report the Government will then lay a draft order in Council which will be debated in Parliament. It is proposed that the new constituencies take effect at the Next General Election (2015). Any by-elections held in the meantime will be held on the basis of the existing constituencies.

The Council's Response

- 17 The proposals presented by the Boundary Commission for England do not take into account the local and unique identify of Herefordshire and dislocate its Parliamentary representatives from its recognised communities. Long established ties would be broken by these proposals, especially with regard to the removal of the Golden Valley North and Golden Valley South Wards from the Hereford and South Herefordshire Constituency
- 18 The proposals put forward in Appendix 2 of this report would maintain the unique identify of the Herefordshire constituencies, whilst also meeting the Boundary Commission's criteria, in that the recommended constituencies would have electorate of more than 72,810 and less than 80,473. This proposal would create a Herefordshire North Constituency and Herefordshire South Constituency. The Herefordshire North Constituency would take in 5 wards from Malvern Town
- 19 The remainder of the wards within Boundary Commission's proposals for Malvern and Ledbury and Ludlow and Leominster constituencies could be merged to create a new constituency of Ludlow and Malvern with an electorate of 77,259

Community Impact

- 20 Local ties could be broken by the proposed changes in the constituencies and there could well be accessibility issues for constituents and the Member of Parliament.

Financial Implications

- 21 There would be costs to the Council in preparing electoral data for the new Constituencies. These have not as yet been assessed.

Legal Implications

- 22 None

Risk Management

- 23 There are minor risks around the preparation of electoral data in the lead up to the next Parliamentary elections to ensure that no elector is disenfranchised.

Consultees

- 24 All Members of the Council have been advised of the Boundary Commission for England's proposals and there has been a national publicity exercise.

Appendices

25 Appendix 1- Electoral Commission's proposed constituencies including wards and electorates for the Herefordshire constituencies

Appendix 2- Proposed Constituencies for Herefordshire North, Herefordshire South and Ludlow and Malvern.

Background Papers

- None identified.

Boundary Commission for England's Proposals

Constituency	Ward	District/borough/city/county	Electorate
Hereford CC			76,780
	Aylestone	Herefordshire	4,987
	Backbury	Herefordshire	2,474
	Belmont	Herefordshire	6,364
	Burghill, Holmer & Lyde	Herefordshire	2,618
	Central	Herefordshire	2,001
	Credenhill	Herefordshire	2,581
	Hollington	Herefordshire	1,566
	Kerne Bridge	Herefordshire	2,548
	Llangarron	Herefordshire	2,619
	Old Gore	Herefordshire	2,518
	Penyard	Herefordshire	2,680
	Pontrilas	Herefordshire	2,809
	Ross – on – Wye East	Herefordshire	3,823
	Ross – on – Wye West	Herefordshire	4,246
	St Martins and Hinton	Herefordshire	8,313
	St Nicholas	Herefordshire	4,860
	Stoney Street	Herefordshire	2,419
	Three Elms	Herefordshire	7,643
	Tupsley	Herefordshire	7,089
	Vallets	Herefordshire	2,622
Ludlow and Leominster CC			77,911
	Bircher	Herefordshire	2,340
	Castle	Herefordshire	2,528
	Golden Cross with Weobley	Herefordshire	2,342
	Golden Valley North	Herefordshire	2,379
	Golden Valley South	Herefordshire	2,384
	Kington Town	Herefordshire	2,451
	Leominster North	Herefordshire	4,156
	Leominster South	Herefordshire	4,433
	Mortimer	Herefordshire	2,578
	Pembridge and Lyonshall with Titley	Herefordshire	2,387
	Upton	Herefordshire	2,330
	Wormsley Ridge	Herefordshire	2,047
	Alveley and Claverley	Shropshire	3,299
	Bishop's Castle	Shropshire	2,837
	Brown Clew	Shropshire	3,033
	Chirbury and Worthen	Shropshire	2,397
	Church Stretton and Craven Arms	Shropshire	6,933
	Clew	Shropshire	3,566
	Cleobury Mortimer	Shropshire	5,509
	Clun	Shropshire	3,093
	Corvedale	Shropshire	3,050
	Highley	Shropshire	2,720
	Ludlow East	Shropshire	3,038
	Ludlow North	Shropshire	3,030
	Ludlow South	Shropshire	3,051

Boundary Commission for England's Proposals

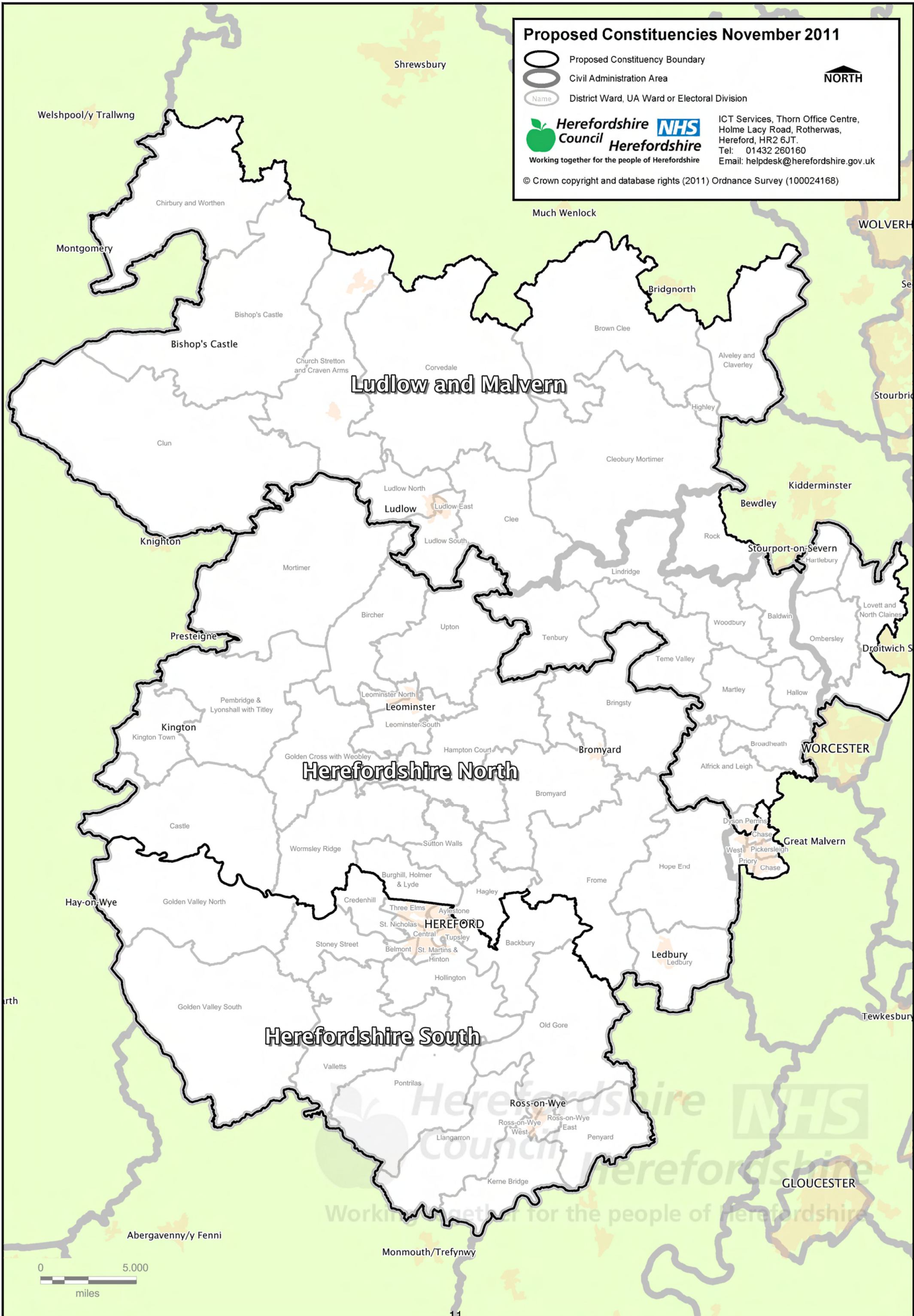
Malvern and Ledbury CC		79,100
Bringsty	Herefordshire	2,290
Bromyard	Herefordshire	4,547
Frome	Herefordshire	2,751
Hagley	Herefordshire	2,909
Hampton Court	Herefordshire	2,157
Hope End	Herefordshire	4,492
Ledbury	Herefordshire	7,342
Sutton Walls	Herefordshire	2,440
Alfrick and Leigh	Malvern Hills	2,927
Baldwin	Malvern Hills	1,691
Broadheath	Malvern Hills	2,825
Chase	Malvern Hills	4,876
Dyson Perrins	Malvern Hills	2,906
Hallow	Malvern Hills	1,534
Lindridge	Malvern Hills	1,823
Link	Malvern Hills	4,958
Martley	Malvern Hills	1,419
Pickersleigh	Malvern Hills	4,481
Priory	Malvern Hills	2,965
Teme Valley	Malvern Hills	1,559
Tenbury	Malvern Hills	3,022
West	Malvern Hills	3,240
Woodbury	Malvern Hills	1,660
Hartlebury	Wychavon	2,139
Lovett and North Claines	Wychavon	4,287
Ombersley	Wychavon	1,860

Herefordshire Council's Response to the Boundary Commission for England's Proposals

Constituency	Ward	Electorate
Herefordshire North	Link	4,958
	West	3,240
	Priory	2,965
	Pickersleigh	4,481
	Chase	4,876
	Hope End	4,492
	Ledbury	7,342
	Frome	2,751
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	Hampton Court	2,175
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	Kington Town	2,451
	Castle	2,528
	Wormsley Ridge	2,047
	Leominster North	4,156
Leominster South	4,433	
Sutton Walls	2,440	
Hagley	2,909	
Burghil, Holmer & Lyde	2,618	
	79,676	
Herefordshire South	Golden Valley North	2,376
	Golden Valley South	2,384
	Valletts	2,622
	Pontrilas	2,809
	Llangarron	2,619
	Kerne Bridge	2,548
	Penyard	2,680
	Ross-on-Wye West	4,246
	Ross-on-Wye East	3,823
	Hollington	1,566
	St Martins & Hinton	8,313
	Belmont	6,364
	St Nicholas	4,860
	Three Elms	7,643
	Central	2,001
Aylestone	4,987	
Tupsley	7,089	

Herefordshire Council's Response to the Boundary Commission for England's Proposals

	Stoney Street	2,419
	Old Gore	2,518
	Backbury	2,474
	Credenhill	2,581
		78,922
Ludlow and Malvern	Tenbury	3,022
	Teme Valley	1,559
	Martley	1,419
	Broad Heath	2,825
	Hallow	1,534
	Lindridge	1,823
	Woodbury	1,660
	Baldwin	1,691
	Ombersley	1,860
	Lovett & North Claines	4,287
	Hartlebury	2,139
	Clun	3,093
	Bishops Castle	2,837
	Chirbury & Worthen	2,397
	Church Stretton & Craven Arms	6,933
	Corvedale	3,056
	Ludlow North	3,030
	Ludlow South	3,051
	Ludlow East	3,038
	Clee	3,566
	Cleobury Mortimer	5,509
	Brown Clee	3,037
	Alveley and Claverley	3,299
	Rock (Wyre Forest CC)	2,041
	Highley	2,720
	Alfrick & Leigh	2,927
	Dyson Perring	2,906
		77,259



MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	18 NOVEMBER 2011
TITLE OF REPORT:	APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
REPORT BY:	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LAW, GOVERNANCE AND RESILIENCE

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Purpose

To make appointments to the positions of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) **Councillor A Seldon be appointed Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;**
- (b) **Councillor JW Millar be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;**
- (c) **Councillor AM Atkinson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with responsibility for the themed area of Enterprise and Culture.**

Key Points Summary

- There is a vacancy in the post of Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Council is responsible for appointing the Chairmen of Committees.
- Councillor Seldon is being proposed as Chairman. He is the current Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee potentially creating a vacancy in that position. Council can also appoint the Vice-Chairmen of Committees. If Council does not appoint the Vice-Chairman of a Committee that appointment will be made by the Committee itself.
- In May Council agreed to appoint six vice-Chairmen with responsibility for themed areas. The appointment of Councillor Seldon as Chairman of the Committee would create a vacancy in the Vice-Chairmanship for the themed area of Enterprise and Culture.
- The Overview and Scrutiny will remain politically proportionate.

Alternative Options

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Chris Chapman, Assistant Director Law, Governance and Resilience on (01432) 260200

- 1 The Council can appoint anyone other than a Member of the Executive as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. However, it is considered that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, who are specifically prohibited from being Members of the Executive, are also ineligible to serve given the responsibilities of those roles and the extent to which they would be incompatible with the role of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 Council needs to ensure that Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen are in post to deliver the Council's functions.

Introduction and Background

- 3 The Council is required to appoint an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. That Committee requires a Chairman and it is helpful if it also has a Vice-Chairman empowered to act on the Chairman's behalf. A vacancy has arisen following the resignation from the Committee of the current Chairman.
- 4 Councillor Seldon is being proposed as Chairman. He is the current Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee potentially creating a vacancy in that position. Council can also appoint the Vice-Chairmen of Committees. If Council does not appoint the Vice-Chairman of a Committee that appointment will be made by the Committee itself.
- 5 In May 2011 Council agreed to appoint six vice-Chairmen with responsibility for themed areas. The proposed appointment of Councillor Seldon as Chairman of the Committee would create a vacancy in the Vice-Chairmanship for the themed area of Enterprise and Culture. It is proposed that Councillor AM Atkinson be appointed to this office.
- 6 Council in May 2011 agreed to appoint the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a politically proportionate basis in accordance with the rules for securing political balance on committees and sub-committees appointed by local authorities, as contained in sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
- 7 The Conservative Group Leader has nominated Councillor Brigadier P Jones to fill the Conservative Group vacancy on the Committee created by the resignation of Councillor Bramer from the Committee. This means the Committee remains politically proportionate.

Community Impact

- 8 The Council needs to ensure that it complies with its statutory duties and the requirements as outlined in the Constitution.

Financial Implications

- 9 There are no financial implications

Legal Implications

- 10 The Council is required to ensure that the allocation of seats to committees are compliant with relevant rules contained in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and regulations made under this act

Risk Management

- 11 The Council is required to ensure that the correct legal processes are adhered to.

Consultees

- 12 The Group Leaders have been consulted on the contents of this report.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None identified.

MEETING:	COUNCIL
DATE:	18 NOVEMBER 2011
TITLE OF REPORT:	APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND VICE CHAIRMEN OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUPS (AMENDED)
REPORT BY:	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LAW, GOVERNANCE AND RESILIENCE

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Purpose

To make appointments to the positions of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Vice-Chairmen of the Task and Finish Groups.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) **Councillor A Seldon be appointed Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;**
- (b) **Councillor JW Millar be appointed Deputy Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;**
- (c) **Councillor AM Atkinson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with responsibility for the themed area of Enterprise and Culture.**

Key Points Summary

- There is a vacancy in the post of Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Council is responsible for appointing the Chairmen of Committees.
- Councillor Seldon is being proposed as Chairman. He is the current Deputy Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee potentially creating a vacancy in that position. Council can also appoint the Deputy Chairmen of Committees. If Council does not appoint the Deputy Chairman of a Committee that appointment will be made by the Committee itself.
- In May Council agreed to appoint six Vice-Chairmen with responsibility for themed areas. The appointment of Councillor Seldon as Chairman of the Committee would create a vacancy in the Vice-Chairmanship for the themed area of Enterprise and Culture.
- The Overview and Scrutiny will remain politically proportionate.

Alternative Options

- 1 The Council can appoint anyone other than a Member of the Executive as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. However, it is considered that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, who are specifically prohibited from being Members of the Executive, are also ineligible to serve given the responsibilities of those roles and the extent to which they would be incompatible with the role of the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 Council needs to ensure that Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen are in post to deliver the Council's functions.

Introduction and Background

- 3 The Council is required to appoint an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. That Committee requires a Chairman and it is helpful if it also has a Deputy Chairman empowered to act on the Chairman's behalf. A vacancy has arisen following the resignation from the Committee of the current Chairman.
- 4 Councillor Seldon is being proposed as Chairman. He is the current Deputy Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee potentially creating a vacancy in that position. Council can also appoint the Vice-Chairmen of Committees. If Council does not appoint the Deputy Chairman of a Committee that appointment will be made by the Committee itself.
- 5 In May 2011 Council agreed to appoint six vice-Chairmen with responsibility for themed areas. The proposed appointment of Councillor Seldon as Chairman of the Committee would create a vacancy in the Vice-Chairmanship for the themed area of Enterprise and Culture. It is proposed that Councillor AM Atkinson be appointed to this office.
- 6 Council in May 2011 agreed to appoint the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a politically proportionate basis in accordance with the rules for securing political balance on committees and sub-committees appointed by local authorities, as contained in sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
- 7 The Conservative Group Leader has nominated Councillor Brigadier P Jones to fill the Conservative Group vacancy on the Committee created by the resignation of Councillor Bramer from the Committee. This means the Committee remains politically proportionate.

Community Impact

- 8 The Council needs to ensure that it complies with its statutory duties and the requirements as outlined in the Constitution.

Financial Implications

- 9 There are no financial implications

Legal Implications

- 10 The Council is required to ensure that the allocation of seats to committees are compliant with relevant rules contained in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and regulations made under this act

Risk Management

- 11 The Council is required to ensure that the correct legal processes are adhered to.

Consultees

- 12 The Group Leaders have been consulted on the contents of this report.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None identified.

